

**Weather Forecast**  
Thundershowers this evening. Fair, not so warm and humid tomorrow.  
Temperatures today—Highest, 91, at 1:30 p.m.; lowest, 78, at 4:35 a.m. Yesterday—Highest, 91, at 3:50 p.m.; lowest, 71, at 6:50 a.m.  
Late New York Markets, Page A-19

# The Evening Star

WITH SUNDAY MORNING EDITION

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## GEN. McNAIR KILLED IN ACTION IN FRANCE

### Was Observing Front-Line Units; Russians Storming Across Vistula; Yanks Cut Deeper Into Nazi Line

#### Highest-Ranking American Officer To Die Under Fire

Lt. Gen. Lesley J. McNair, until recently commanding general of the Army Ground Forces, has been killed by enemy action in Normandy.

Once called "the brains of the Army" by Gen. George C. Marshall, Gen. McNair was the highest-ranking American officer killed in action in the present war and the fifth general officer to die in action.

The War Department announcement today merely said:

"The War Department has been notified of the death of Lt. Gen. Lesley J. McNair. Gen. McNair was killed by enemy fire while observing the action of our front line units in the recent offensive."

In April, 1943, when he went to North Africa as an observer, Gen. McNair was wounded in the scalp and shoulder by bursting shrapnel. The Purple Heart, which he wore as a result of the wounds, was one of his proudest possessions.

Recently Given New Assignment.

As commanding general of the Army Ground Forces, Gen. McNair, who was 61, had trained all the ground forces taking part in the Normandy invasion. It was announced on July 14 that he had relinquished that important command for an important and undisclosed overseas assignment. Lt. Gen. Ben S. Lear was designated as his successor.

Mrs. McNair, who had celebrated her 39th wedding anniversary with her husband just last month at a party for close friends, heard the news about an hour before it was made public.

Friends at the Army War College, where the McNairs lived, said she was "bearing up very well, taking it like a soldier's wife." Brig. Gen. J. G. Christiansen, who was Gen. McNair's chief of staff, and Mrs. Christiansen remained with Mrs. McNair.

Gen. McNair was designer of the training program which produced combat units whose members fought like veterans in their first battles. He was credited with streamlining the old "square" division of nearly 20,000 men into the "triangular" infantry division of 15,000 and among the original group of officers who were needed for developing the tank destroyer after the Germans had exploited the tank's use in Poland and the Low Countries.

In the reorganization of the Army in March, 1942, grouping military functions into three basic units—ground forces, air forces and service of supply—Gen. McNair was selected by Gen. Marshall, Chief of Staff, to head the ground forces.

Marshall Pays Tribute.

Notified of the death of his friend Gen. McNair, Gen. Marshall said today that Gen. McNair had met the death he probably would have elected to die on the battle front.

Gen. Marshall's statement said:

"The American Army has sustained a great loss in the death of Gen. McNair. Gen. McNair was the choice, he would probably have elected to die as he did, in the forefront of the attack.

"His presence on the firing line with the leading element in the great assault which has just been launched on the German front in Normandy was indicative of his aggressive and fearless spirit and should be an inspiring example to the forces of our great ground Army which he organized and trained."

An aide telephoned the news to Gen. John J. Pershing at Walter Reed Hospital. Gen. McNair served under the World War chief, both in France and in the punitive expedition into Mexico in 1916.

Gen. Pershing was deeply affected by the news. He said, "Gen. McNair was a great soldier and his untimely death is a loss to the Army and to the Nation."

Gen. McNair had the reputation of being one of the most efficient, experienced and hard-working officers in the Army, and always regarded himself as a fighting man despite his widely recognized ability in planning and organization.

After Gen. McNair was wounded by shell fragments in Tunisia last year, Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., then commander of the 2d Corps, pinned the Purple Heart on his uniform. That Gen. McNair had a keen sense of humor was evidenced

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LT. GEN. LESLEY J. McNAIR Shown in April, 1943, wearing the Purple Heart Medal presented to him after being wounded on the Tunisian front. He suffered a fractured shoulder and has his arm in a sling.

—Signal Corps Radio Photo.

#### Allied Ships Massed For New Landing in Italy, Nazis Report

##### La Spezia and Genoa Soon Will Be Scene of Operation, Berlin Says

**BULLETIN.**  
LONDON (AP).—Masses of Allied warships, transports and landing craft were reported by the Berlin radio tonight to be concentrated with several divisions of troops in the coastal area of the Tyrrhenian Sea for an imminent new landing in Northern Italy around La Spezia and Genoa.

**ROME, July 27.**—The battle for Florence, the last big Italian city in German hands south of the Gothic Line, flared to a new fury today with the 8th Army smashing fierce German counterattacks 8 miles from the heart of the historic town.

At the same time, indications grew that the ancient city of Pisa would become a major battle ground. The Germans were observed erecting barricades in the main streets north of the Arno River and setting up machine-gun posts. It was officially reported the enemy was using the famous Leaning Tower as well as church steeples for observation posts.

**Heavy Artillery in Action.**  
The roar of heavy artillery resounded along the 5th Army front on the Lower Arno from San Romano to the sea. American long-range guns destroyed a big enemy railway cannon, several tanks and self-propelled guns, and a number of enemy dumps during day-long shelling.

The Germans continued to fight bitterly in the horseshoe bend east of Pisa, their only stronghold on the south side of the 5th Army front.

The last pockets of Nazi resistance along the railway embankment near San Romano was wiped out and the Americans also cleaned up a few groups of Germans who had been fighting from house to house in the same area.

**New Zealanders Near Goal.**  
Most impressive gains in the steel ring closing in on Florence were to the southwest of the city, where 8th Army units surged forward as much as 3 miles in the area of Castelnuovo and Valchiele.

These forces were more distant, however, than the New Zealanders battling the German 4th Parachute Division along Highway No. 2 in the area of San Casciano, only 8 miles from the goal.

In the upper Tiber Valley the British crossed the Cerfone River and engaged the enemy in the immediate area of Sansepolcro.

Activity in the Adriatic sector was limited to patrols.

#### Americans Gain Three Miles In Six Hours

(Map on Page A-2.)

**BULLETIN.**  
WITH THE UNITED STATES 1st ARMY AT CANISY (AP).—American troops captured Periers and Lessay today. Other troops drove to within less than 5 miles of Coutances, forcing several Nazi divisions north of the city to fall back from Periers and Lessay to escape encirclement.

**SUPREME ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, July 27.**—American doughboys and tank teams split German central defenses wide open today in the biggest breakthrough of the Normandy invasion.

The Americans penetrating German defenses south of St. Lo have gained 3 miles in the last six hours, while advanced patrols reached the road center of Periers, 15 miles northwest of St. Lo.

Fanning out eastward from St. Gilles and Canisy, they began closing a trap on Germans in a bend of the Vire River below St. Lo, capturing Le Mesnil Herman, 6 miles south of St. Lo and 9 miles from their jump-off point.

The Americans had seized Canisy in this advance and cut the road running south from St. Lo to Perier along the baseline of the Cherbourg Peninsula.

Headquarters said patrols entered Periers, a stronghold of the German line stretching to the sea, and were at a point 10 miles north of Coutances.

**Fan Out from Marigny.**  
The armored spearhead pushing southwest of St. Lo had driven so deep, however, that it was closer to Coutances than the Periers force. Fanning out westward from Marigny, this force advanced nearly a mile along the St. Lo-Coutances road to within 9 miles of Coutances.

To the east, between St. Lo and Caumont, the Americans also scored sharp advances, throwing the Germans back 2 miles since last night and capturing Mouffet, 5 miles west of Caumont, as well as laying firm hold on Berigny to the rear.

This advance severed the Caumont-St. Lo road.

Tanks, with doughboys riding the charged past St. Samson-de-Bonfossé in the southwest, driving the Mesnil Herman, front line discharges said, seized the ridge dominating Le Mesnil Herman as well as the town.

**Nazi Rear Disorganized.**  
Field dispatches said the whole German rear had been disorganized by the rapid smashes into the Nazi lines, and prisoners were being taken by the hundreds.

Taken no longer bothered with groups of the enemy surrendering simply mooting them on to the rear, where they were taken in charge by riflemen.

The infantry was said to be moving up in an almost solid line from Marigny to Canisy in the wake of the slashing tank columns whose commanders directed circles of fire to attack objectives as they chose.

Fighter planes alone were said to have wrecked or damaged 70 Nazi tanks yesterday.

**Nazis Retake Esquay.**  
Meanwhile, headquarters spokesmen said there was "no cause for anxiety on the situation" in the eastern sector around Caen where the British and Canadians have suffered local setbacks.

The Germans counterattacked with tanks, artillery and mortar fire, recapturing Esquay, 7 miles southwest of Caen, and Hills 112 and 113 in the eastern sector around Caen where the British and Canadians have suffered local setbacks.

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Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley's American 1st Army battle front had advanced from Caen to the town of Periers, 13 miles east of St. Lo, capturing Montabot.

**ADVANCE COMMAND POST.**  
Allied Expeditionary Force, July 27.—An Allied commentator said today that German talk of using 10-ton explosive rockets against England, may not be sheer propaganda talk.

He pointed to attacks by RAF Lancasters on possible V-2 (rocket) sites with 12,000-pound "quake-makers."

A new rocket is reported from certain unauthenticated sources inside France to weigh about 90 tons at launching. Its size is said to diminish as fuel is expended in flight through the stratosphere and the 10-ton warhead is designed as the part of this monster weapon to reach its destination.

The commentator said V-2 might be highly inaccurate or might flounder in flight, but that there should be no wishful thinking.

It is highly probable that the

#### Reds Break Into Brest-Litovsk; Take Bialystok

(Map on Page A-2.)

**BULLETIN.**  
LONDON (AP).—Premier Stalin tonight announced the capture of Stanislawow in the Carpathian foothill approaches to Czechoslovakia.

**LONDON, July 27.**—Russian troops surged across the Vistula River southeast of Warsaw today, captured Bialystok, 110 miles northeast of the Polish capital, and were reported by the Moscow radio to have stormed into the streets of Brest-Litovsk.

Premier Stalin announced the capture of Bialystok in an order of the day:

"Troops of the 2d White Russian front, after two days of fighting, today captured by storm the town and large industrial center of Bialystok, important railroad junction and powerful fortified area covering the road to Warsaw."

The announcement from the Moscow radio, recorded by the Soviet monitor, followed by several hours a German broadcast statement that Bialystok, a city of 91,000, had been evacuated. Stalin ordered 20 salutes from 224 guns.

Both the Russians and Germans said the Vistula, last natural barrier to German Silesia, 140 miles to the west, had been spanned.

**Crucial Defense Points.**  
Both Brest-Litovsk and Bialystok were crucial defense points along a line which the Germans had strengthened over several years. Both had been bypassed and besieged for about two weeks.

The fall of both, following the announced Red Army crossing of the Vistula southeast of Warsaw, would indicate a virtual collapse of the German central front. Warsaw, a guardian city to German soil, was under concentric threat from the south, northeast and east.

The Berlin radio said defense lines in the Brest-Litovsk area were taken back "under massed pressure of the enemy" and Moscow reported street fighting in the city of 50,000.

The Germans said a great battle was developing on the level planes around the Vistula River where the "stream posed an outstanding threat to the city."

Warsaw already could hear the first sounds of approaching battle, the Moscow newspaper Izvestia said, according to the underground.

**Reach River on 30-Mile Front.**  
The crossing of the 600-foot wide Vistula was in the Delbin-Pulaw region 57 to 66 miles southeast of Warsaw, which had a peacetime population of 1,265,700. The surge across the stream posed an outstanding threat to the city.

The area of the penetration is 355 square miles from Berlin on a historic invasion route. It is 140 miles from the border of German Silesia.

Russian Cossacks, tanks, infantry and Czech border troops were reported to be driving before them the battered and haggard Germans. Nazi rearguards fled to the west bank soon after dawn and were enveloped in a cacophony of massed artillery and mortar fire.

Polish troops were advancing beside the victorious Red Army, Izvestia said. "Berlin is liberated already and the capital of Warsaw listens to the remote detonation of artillery."

By capturing Delatyn in the Carpathian foothills, 20 miles from the Czech border, the Red Army posed a threat to both Romania and Hungary, uneasy German puppet states.

At the top of the 1,000-mile undulating front, the capture of the

(See RUSSIA, Page A-2)



#### Berlin Identifies Three Generals Involved in Hitler Bomb Plot

##### Beck Killed Himself, Olbricht Executed, German Radio Says

By the Associated Press.

**LONDON, July 27.**—Three German generals, two of whom led Nazi forces on the Russian front, were named today by the German radio as participants in the bomb plot against Hitler last Thursday. Berlin said two are dead and the third awaits trial.

They were:

Col. Gen. Ludwig Beck, former German chief of staff, who was said to have committed suicide when arrested. The Germans said he was "no longer among the living."

Gen. Friedrich Olbricht, a former infantry leader on the eastern front, who was said to have been shot after a court-martial. The broadcast said he was chief of a general army department at supreme German headquarters. He was said to have been second in command of the German home

army, now headed by Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler.

Maj. Gen. Erich Hoepner, also a Russian front leader. He was said to be under arrest awaiting trial.

Neither Gen. Olbricht nor Gen. Hoepner was widely known. Gen. Beck had been known for years as

(See GENERALS, Page A-2)

#### Polish Exile Premier Leaves for Moscow To Confer With Stalin

##### Mikolajczyk Visit Backed By Cabinet in Effort to Unite Rival Factions

By the Associated Press.

**LONDON, July 27.**—Premier Stanislaw Mikolajczyk of the Polish government-in-exile left for Moscow today.

His departure came after the cabinet of the Polish government had approved a plan to send him to the Soviet capital to confer with Premier Stalin in an apparent effort to effect a compromise with the rival Polish faction in Moscow.

The cabinet's decision was regarded as a sign that neither the Polish government nor the British government had abandoned hope of settling the differences between the government of the peasant-born Premier and the Polish Committee of Liberation with which the Soviet government signed an agreement for administration of Polish territory occupied by the Red Army.

**Unity of Armed Forces.**  
Meanwhile, the London Daily Worker, which has been vitriolic in its attacks on the London Polish government took a milder tone and said "a splendid opportunity exists for all honest Polish democrats to take part in the rebuilding of a strong Poland" if Premier Mikolajczyk and his followers "find the courage to break once and for all with the reactionary gang around him."

Some degree of unity is being developed in the Polish armed forces. The Moscow radio broadcast a letter from Lt. Gen. Sigmund Berling and Maj. Gen. Alexander Zawadzki, commanders of Polish troops in the Soviet, to Gen. Juzjan Zeligowski in London calling for a Poland "great, strong, happy and not dependent on any one."

Gen. Zeligowski's reply praised them for their part in the restoration of an "independent" Poland.

Under terms of the accord between the Soviets and the Liberation Committee, supreme power is vested in the Russian commander in chief in areas where the Red Army is still engaged in fighting, but as soon as an area ceases to be a zone of military operations, the Polish Committee will assume full responsibility in matters of civil government and establish an administration.

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#### Argentine Avowal Of Faith Hit by Hull; Recognition Barred

##### Foreign Minister's Claim That Nation Doesn't Aid Axis Called Specious

By JOSEPH H. BAIRD.

Secretary of State Hull today described as a specious plea the statement of Foreign Minister Orlando Peluffo of Argentina that his country was living up to its obligations under pan-American security agreements.

The Secretary also reiterated orally an earlier official State Department charge that the Buenos Aires regime had deserted the Allied cause.

Mr. Hull's oral statement to the press followed by only a few hours the State Department's release of a stern 3,000-word statement ending with a declaration that this Government would not recognize the regime of Gen. Edelmiro Farrell until it changed its pro-Axis policies.

**Protests Good Faith.**  
Last night, Mr. Peluffo in a radio speech said his country would continue its present course of conduct. He contended, despite Washington's contrary assertions, that Argentina had conformed with the letter and spirit of its obligations.

When asked to comment on Mr. Peluffo's statement, Mr. Hull said a specious plea put forth by parties to the desertion of the Allied cause by the Argentine government called for no comment.

Branding the Farrell regime as a violator of its pledges in support of Pan-American security and one which consistently has given aid and comfort to the Axis, the State Department declared that it would withhold recognition of the government until it had mended its ways.

A similar policy has been approved by virtually all the Latin American nations and Great Britain.

**Specific Charges.**  
The specific charges leveled at Argentina were:

"1. That it has deliberately violated the pledge taken jointly with its sister republic to co-operate in support of the war against the Axis powers, and in thus deserting the Allied cause has struck a powerful blow at the whole system of hemispheric co-operation."

"2. It has openly and notoriously been giving affirmative assistance to the declared enemies of the United Nations."

The statement contained no threat of sanctions, but flatly declared that the Farrell regime would be diplomatically isolated until it altered its pro-Axis policies. Officials have said, however, that if the present political pressure being brought to bear on Buenos Aires

(See ARGENTINA, Page A-6)



COL. GEN. LUDWIG BECK. —A. P. Wirephoto.

#### Transfer of Patients Approved to Relieve Load on Glenn Dale

##### Nonresident Cases Would Return Home Under New Program

By BAINBRIDGE CRIST.

A program calling for return of nonresident tuberculosis cases to their home States, transfer of noncommunicable cases from Glenn Dale Sanatorium and Gallinger Hospital to Upshur Street Hospital and closing of a women's ward at Glenn Dale was included among 10 recommendations by health officials approved by the Commissioners today in an effort to relieve hard-pressed Glenn Dale.

Submitted by Health Officer George C. Ruhland, the recommendations also asked that all Federal appointees be X-rayed in their home States before coming to Washington, because, "at the present time hospitalization of nonresident cases is a common and serious abuse of District facilities."

The question of legal authority to deport such nonresidents will be submitted to the corporation counsel.

The program proposes the immediate discharge from Upshur Street

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#### Dewey Pledges End of Friction In Government

##### 15-Point Program Mapped for Parley Of GOP Governors

By J. A. O'LEARY, Star Staff Correspondent.

**ALBANY, July 27.**—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, Republican nominee for President, declared today, "The disgraceful spectacle of petty bickering and constant warfare between various units of Government will come to an end next January 20."

He made this prediction of victory as he made public a list of 15 subjects to be submitted to the St. Louis conference of 26 Republican Governors August 2 and 3, covering nearly every home front issue likely to be raised in the coming campaign.

Included in the program are the problems of spending, taxation, labor, agriculture, veterans' affairs, public works and unemployment insurance.

**Campaign Plans Discussed.**  
The outline of the program was made public after Gov. Dewey had gone over it for many hours with his running mate, Gov. John W. Bricker of Ohio.

They also discussed their campaign plans, but Gov. Dewey said they were not ready to announce them yet.

Asked if any Senators or other officials would be in St. Louis to represent the Federal point of view, in contrast to the State views of the Governors, Mr. Dewey replied:

"I represent that viewpoint since we face the possibility of having to exercise the responsibility."

After he had described the list of subjects as areas in which there are varying degrees of conflict between Federal, State and local government, Gov. Dewey was asked if it would be fair to draw the conclusion that the general objective of the St. Louis meeting is to bring about curtailment of Federal power.

"No such inference can be drawn," he answered.

**Long Source of Friction.**  
As the two Republican nominees came onto the veranda of the executive mansion to meet the press, Gov. Dewey began:

"We have canvassed the entire field of conflict between Federal, State and local government. This conflict of authority and responsibility has been a constant source of friction for 12 years in this country now."

"There have been enough people spending their full time fighting each other over questions of jurisdiction and power between Federal, State and local government to make up a small army. In fact there have been almost as many people squabbling over this subject as there are squabbling in the Federal Government, if that were possible."

"We conceive it to be one of our first obligations to bring agreement out of this chaos, and to bring unity where there is only disunity now. It is for that reason the Republican Governors will meet at St. Louis and make an effort to settle the areas of responsibility to the people."

"If we are successful, this will not only wholly unite the Republican party as it goes before the people. It will also unite the viewpoint of the 26 States headed by Republican Governors, where three-fourths of the American people live. That means that the disgraceful spectacle of petty bickering and constant warfare between various units of Government will come to an end next January 20."

**Points to Be Discussed.**  
The 15 points in the program are:

"1. Public expenditures.  
"2. Public health.  
"3. Administration of unemployment insurance.  
"4. Administration of the employment services, which were surrendered by the States to the Federal Government in the war emergency.  
"5. The question of the relationship between unemployment insurance and the employment service.  
"6. Labor which involves the sphere of influence of the National Government as contrasted with the States.  
"7. Public works.—The extent of which they should be directed by the States, and financed by the States and Federal governments.  
"8. Highways, as distinguished from public works, because some of them are transcontinental or built for military purposes.  
"9. Regulation of insurance of all kinds.  
"10. Ownership and use of national land. There are States where the national Government owns 80 per cent of the land, and questions arise as to taxation or exemption from taxation.  
"11. The separate but related question of water, flood control and conservation of natural resources.  
"12. National Guard.—The question of its continuance as a National Guard, as a reserve to the Regular Army, and the extent of Federal control under the act of 1920, or whether they should all be federalized.  
"13. The whole field of Federal-State tax co-ordination, of overlapping and conflicting tax collections, and the extent of Federal control.  
"14. Agriculture.—The extent to which agricultural aids, soil conservation and controls, if any, should be locally, regionally and nationally administered.  
"15. Veterans' affairs."

Gov. Dewey explained that he could not say the Governors will feel that all these subjects can be dealt with adequately in the two

(See DEWEY, Page A-15)

#### Showers Forecast Here, But No Relief From Heat

Washington residents might as well make up their minds to put up with the present heat wave, because according to the Weather Bureau "there's no real cool weather in sight."

Today's temperature was expected to reach 96 degrees about 4 p.m., with the humidity going to 40. Tomorrow will be slightly cooler, with the thermometer not expected to go over 90, but the humidity will be slightly higher than today.

Thundershowers are predicted for tonight, but are not expected to give much relief. Yesterday's high temperature of 91 degrees came at 3:30 p.m., with the humidity in the low 60s.